

Message Text

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ACTION TRSE-00

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 ISO-00 SP-03 AID-20 EB-11 NSC-07 RSC-01

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FM AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1565

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIN, IMF, IBRD

SUBJECT: THE SELIMAN SAGA, OR CONFUSION FROM COMMUNICATIONS
CONCERNING CONFERENCES OF IMF AND IBRD

REF: (A) STATE 207374 (B) STATE 206226 (C) STATE 194318

1. LAST WEEK, THE EMBASSY BECAME INVOLVED WILLY-NILLY IN THE SELIMAN SAGA OVER WHETHER THE FINANCE MINISTER WOULD ATTEND THE UPCOMING FUND/BANK MEETINGS IN WASHINGTON. SUBSEQUENT TO THE ACCREDITATION OF DIOGENES FERNANDEZ, GOVERNOR OF THE CENTRAL BANK, AS HEAD OF DELEGATION AND AN ASSISTANT, EDUARDO TEJEDA, AS ALTERNATE TO THESE MEETINGS, FERNANDEZ DISPATCHED TEJEDA AND ANOTHER CENTRAL BANK OFFICIAL TO THE EMBASSY TO ASK OUR ASSISTANCE IN KEEPING SELIMAN FROM GOING TO WASHINGTON.

2. AT THAT TIME, SELIMAN, USING COMMUNICATIONS FROM U.S. TREASURY DEPT. AND INVITATION FROM MR. DAVID ROCKEFELLER, HAD ALREADY OBTAINED PRESIDENT BALAGUER'S PERMISSION ALSO TO GO TO WASHINGTON EITHER FOR THE SOCIAL FUNCTIONS OF THE MEETINGS, THE MEETINGS THEMSELVES, OR BOTH.

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3. DURING COURSE OF THIS UNFOLDING DRAMA, EMBASSY BECAME

AWARE THAT, WHEREAS IT HAD BEEN INSTRUCTED THROUGH REGULAR CHANNELS OF DEPARTMENT OF STATE TO TRANSMIT TO GODR INVITATIONS FOR SECRETARY SIMON'S LUNCHEON AND SUBSTANTIVE USG POSITIONS ON MEETINGS, THE U.S. TREASURY DEPT. WAS ALSO TELEXING DIRECTLY TO GODR OFFICIALS BOTH POSITIONS OF SUBSTANCE AND INVITATIONS FOR SECRETARY SIMON'S LUNCHEON AND UNDER SECRETARY BENNETT'S BREAKFAST.

4. BECAUSE OF SOMEWHAT UNUSUAL SETUP IN GODR, CENTRAL BANK OFFICIALS HERE RATHER THAN FINANCE MINISTRY OFFICIALS HAVE ALWAYS ATTENDED FUND/BANK MEETINGS.

5. WE MANAGED NOT TO BECOME UNDULY EMBROILED IN THIS RIVALRY BETWEEN THE GOVERNOR OF THE CENTRAL BANK AND THE SECRETARY OF FINANCE, AND IT WAS FINALLY DECIDED THAT THE LATTER WOULD NOT RPT NOT GO TO WASHINGTON.

6. IN ORDER TO ENABLE US TO HELP AVOID SUCH SITUATIONS, TO DISCHARGE OUR RESPONSIBILITIES PROPERLY AND TO MAINTAIN NECESSARY COORDINATION, WE STRONGLY RECOMMEND THAT ALL FUTURE OFFICIAL COMMUNICATIONS TO GODR OFFICIALS HERE FROM ANY USG ENTITY BE ROUTED THROUGH THE EMBASSY.
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